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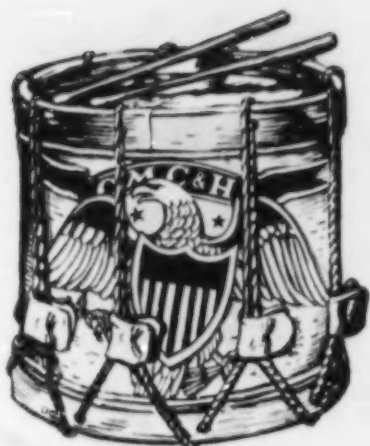
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MILITARY ORGANIZATION IN MAINE'S FIRST INDIAN WAR

by Frank E. Southard, Jr.

In 1675 the first of a long series of Indian Wars broke out in Maine. It continued until 1678. In southern New England it was known as King Philip's War. In Maine and New Hampshire it had no special name, and American historians rarely mention it. Perhaps our pride leads us to treat it as a footnote to King Philip's War. The Indians won it. The English were driven from all but the three southern towns of Maine, and in the peace treaty agreed to pay an annual tribute to the red men.¹

The war offers some interest in showing how an essentially European military system, given a period of acclimatization to peacetime Colonial conditions, would function in savage warfare. Before 1675, New England looked wholly to Europe for its learning in matters of arms. That year, its soldiers began to learn for themselves.

The early history of Maine is so little known, but so germane to the subject, that it bears summarizing. There were settlers on the Maine Coast as early as 1620; but the early government of Sir Ferdinando Gorges was weak and Royalist. In the years 1652 to 1658, while Cromwell was ruling England, Massachusetts Bay Colony extended its jurisdiction over Maine as far east as Casco, now Portland. The territory between the Piscataqua and Kennebec Rivers was known as Yorkshire County. After the Restoration in 1660, Royal Commissioners sent over by the English Crown terminated Massachusetts' sovereignty without establishing an adequate substitute. In 1668 Massachusetts again seized Maine² as far as the Kennebec with a small body of troops supporting a Commission headed by John Leverett, who had served a while under Cromwell as a captain in

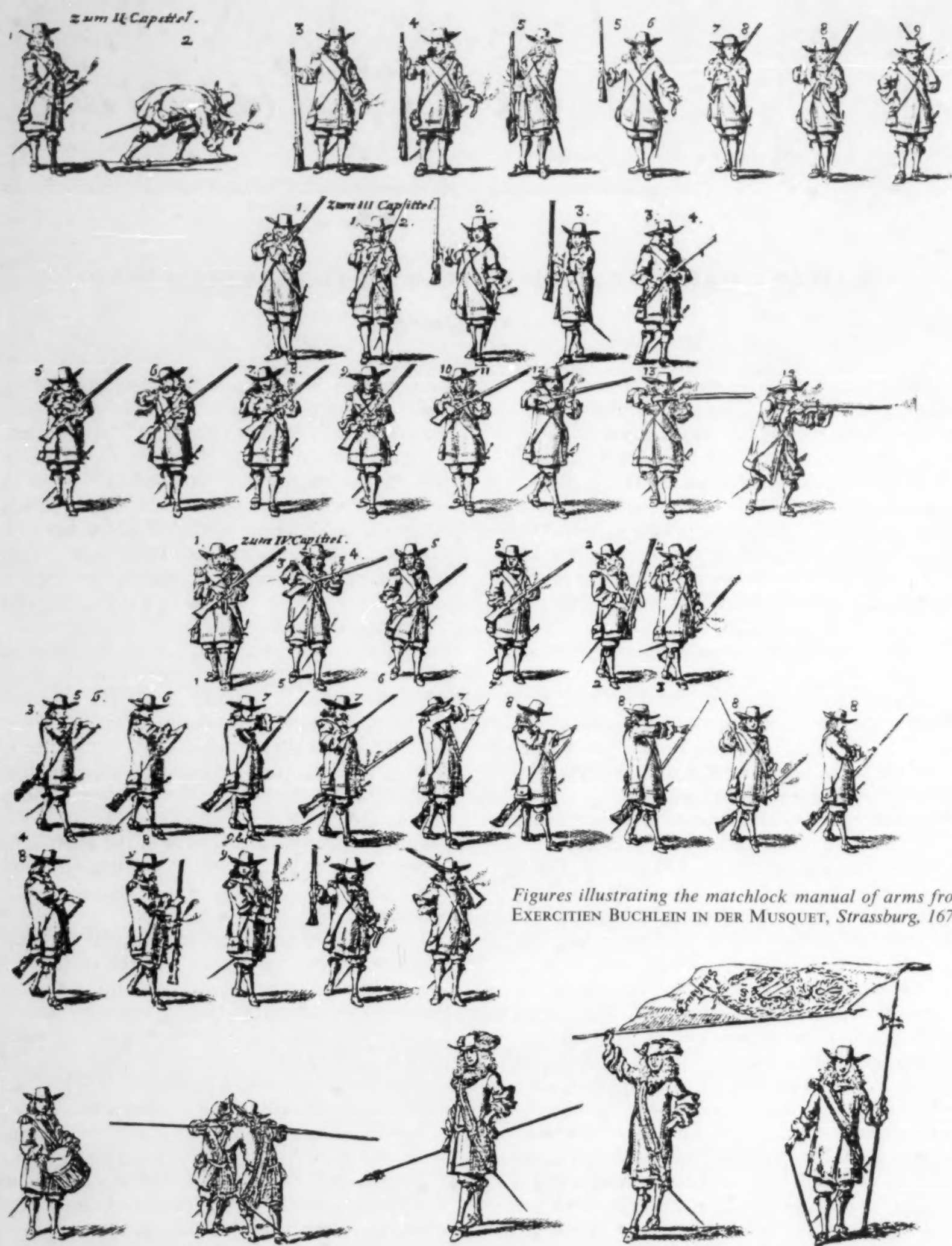
Rainborowe's Regiment of Foot.³ Although King Charles II granted the territory east of the Kennebec to the Duke of York, the Duke's Government at New York did not exercise authority there. In 1674 Massachusetts Bay extended its borders to include the settled part of this area—as far east as Pemaquid—calling this Devonshire County.⁴

Thus far Massachusetts had acted pretty much as an independent commonwealth, and for our purposes so she was, though she lived in constant fear of actual subordination to the English crown. Until the Indian War was over, she received neither military help nor control from the English government.

The population of Maine in 1675 was about 6,000, living "scatteringly" in coastal towns from Kittery to Pemaquid. The principal occupation was fishing, but agriculture, the fur trade, lumbering, and masting were important. Most of the people were illiterate; few were of the Puritan religious persuasion. Increasingly those in economic and political control were Massachusetts emigrants.⁵

In 1675 European infantry was still strong in pikemen; its normal firearm was the matchlock; the flintlock was issued only to elite troops or those whose duties required its relative safety. Cavalry was the decisive arm under Cromwell, relying on shock action.⁶

New England reversed the emphasis. There was an effort to create a strong cavalry arm. A troop of cavalry was located at Portsmouth, New Hampshire and recruited from the surrounding towns, Kittery as well as Massachusetts. Its commander was also commander of the Norfolk County Regiment, but it trained with the Yorkshire County



Figures illustrating the matchlock manual of arms from
EXERCITIEN BUCHLEIN IN DER MUSQUET, Strassburg, 1673.

Regiment in 1674.⁷ This branch of the service was made attractive by tax allowances and relative freedom from training sessions.⁸ The Portsmouth troop never took the field, but other troops did see service, as dragoons rather than as curassiers.⁹ Without changing their branch, foot troops sometimes used horses for their scouting, especially when the streams and swamps with which Maine abounded were frozen.¹⁰

Massachusetts law required each settler to have the matchlock musket, with two fathom of match, bandoliers, and the accessories to this weapon,¹¹ and this weapon was still in use during the war.¹² The development of the flintlock musket, so superior for hunting and fowling as well as for military purposes, led to its more general use by the New England settlers, so that by 1675 it was more common than the simple, smelly matchlock.¹³ Many settlers became pretty good shots,¹⁴ but others, particularly fishermen, were almost unacquainted with firearms. There were Maine settlers who did not own a gun, despite what Massachusetts law said.¹⁵

The pike was not yet unknown. I find no reference to it in Maine during the Indian Wars, and pikes sent out to Richmond Island in 1632 were not worth fixing,¹⁶ but the Boston companies drilled with pikes at least as late as 1686,¹⁷ and during King Philip's War itself the frontier town of Groton asked for firearms to equip its pikemen.¹⁸ This will perhaps indicate that the Bay Colony patterned its military ideas strongly after those of Europe.

As to other weapons, every man, whether foot or horse, soldier or officer, was supposed to have a sword,¹⁹ though he often did not. Hatchets sometimes replaced the sword as a side arm;²⁰ halberds were the badge of office of the sergeant and half pikes of the officer;²¹ bayonets were quite unheard of.²²

A armor played an important part at Governor Leverett's ceremonious funeral;²³ was sometimes called for during the war,²⁴ but played no part known to me in actual hostilities in Maine and New Hampshire during this war.

The militia of the Colony was organized upon a political basis. The soldiers of a county were a regiment, regardless of the number of companies or the number of men.²⁵ So there were two regiments in Maine: the Yorkshire Regiment, of the men between the Piscataqua and the Kennebec, some

700 strong, and the Devonshire Regiment, east of the Kennebec, with perhaps 150 members.²⁶ The number of companies was fixed by the number of towns in the county, for each town furnished a company, save in those cases where it was so populous as to support more than one.²⁷

There was no tactical or administrative subdivision of the company. Platoons, a fire unit developed by Gustavus Adolphus,²⁸ were not known to Maine. The tactical separation between pikes and shot, of very great importance in contemporary European practice,²⁹ was of no importance in Maine because of the scarcity, or absence, of pikes. The squad and the corporalship had no tactical significance; and the closest approach to a fixed subdivision of the company was the file, based upon a normal formation of six deep.³⁰

Everyone belonged to the army. In those days the army and the militia were identical, for there was no place for the luxury of professional soldiers. It is true that there were a few men who earned their living as soldiers, but they were only the gunners at the Castle in Boston Harbor. They were specialists in exchanging salutes with incoming ships. There were occupational hazards—lightning struck Captain Davenport in 1665,³¹ but no one had any idea of letting these people take any important part in the Indian War.

Everyone belonged to the army—with exceptions. These were the great and the impossible. The great included such people as Assistants, deacons, and students at Harvard,³² none of any significance to Maine. The impossible included fishermen and farmers at distant farms. There was a large proportion of fishermen in Maine, and their habits of being at sea in boats at all scheduled drills made their attendance impracticable. So they were exempted from attendance by law.³³ Thus protected, some of them were encouraged to appear on the sidelines and hoot at their less fortunate neighbors. The General Court therefore decreed that if they were at home at training time, they too must endure the trainings.³⁴ This probably had had little effect in Maine by 1675. Very old men were sometimes excused from attendance at training, on payment of some sum of money to the company.³⁵

The company officers included corporals and sergeants. These grades were both appointed by the company commissioned officers, or in the case of companies too small to have officers, by the



A musketeer from A. M. Mallet, LES TRAVAUX DE MARS OU L'ART DE GUERRE, Paris, 1684.

regimental commander.³⁶ In the Devonshire Regiment, organized in 1674, they were appointed by the Bay Commissioners to command the little companies there.³⁷ Each full company was to have two drummers and a clerk.³⁸

The clerk was an extremely important person in the military system, for he called the roll, inspected equipments, reported deficiencies, and collected the fines imposed as a result of this report. He was to be "a discreet, able man," according to statute, but this was arrant flattery. He had to pay uncollected fines from his own pocket. No really discreet, able man would accept the elective position; so each declining clerk paid the company forty shillings until the choice fell on some settler whose poverty exceeded his discretion.³⁹

Company commissioned officers were the ensign, who carried the color which each company bore, the lieutenant, and the captain. These officers were nominated by all of the soldiers who had taken the oath of fidelity, whether or not they were freemen, apparently only to fill vacancies, and not annually. In Yorkshire they were confirmed by the County

Court, though beginning with 1668, commissions were issued by the General Court. All officers had to be freemen.⁴⁰

Each regiment was commanded by a sergeant major. This functionary's title was often abbreviated to major and eventually the sergeant, intended to designate him as technically proficient, was dropped. The major was appointed by the General Court.⁴¹ The wartime sergeant major of the Yorkshire Regiment was Richard Walderne of Dover, New Hampshire, a politically powerful figure who was speaker of the General Court in 1674, the year he received his appointment.⁴² He had been New England's first adjutant when he temporarily commanded the Yorkshire Regiment when its sergeant major was relieved in 1672.⁴³ The improper use of the term only indicates its novelty. The Devonshire Regiment was so small that its commander preserved the title of lieutenant.⁴⁴ There was no regimental staff.

Commander of the Colony troops was the sergeant major general, elected annually by the freemen of the colony. Despite the annual elections, he usually served several years in succession. General Daniel Dennison of Ipswich served from 1674 to 1681. He, too, had no staff, and not so much as a clerk to assist him.⁴⁵ And though he and the sergeant majors did receive a small annual allowance, none of the officers, or men, were professional soldiers. They were all civilians, with a first responsibility of earning their livings as such.

Clearly such an organization permitted little in the way of planning, and not much more in the way of inspections.

However well a territorial organization might serve for the purpose of training, or for local defense, it could not serve at all well during operations either far distant from the home town or requiring much time; for no town could last long with all its able bodied men gone. For such purposes, troops were pressed.

Like much of the Massachusetts military system, this was essentially Elizabethan.⁴⁶ The General Court, or in its absence the Council, decided on a draft, either for an expedition or for garrisons, selected the officers, and designated the counties to furnish the troops. In Maine this meant that troops serving in that area came from Massachusetts, for the Yorkshire Regiment was so busy defending its own frontier during the War that it was never in a position to furnish drafts for the unpleasantness to the south.⁴⁷

Volunteers were always welcome, but they were never forthcoming in sufficient numbers, especially after men found out what fighting Indians was like.⁴⁸ The draft was divided among the towns by the sergeant major, and the town militia committee assigned the town's quota. The committee then issued a warrant to the town constable for named persons to appear properly equipped, at the desired rendezvous.⁴⁹ The committee was inclined to name persons removed from the frontier, boys without family responsibilities, and people the town would not miss. Petitions to the General Court for discharge were frequent and were often acted upon favorably as hardship cases.⁵⁰ And the simpler solution for the unhappy pressed man was not to appear at all. He often did not, and nearly as often escaped punishment. The penalty, if he were prosecuted, was a fine of four pounds, as long as he did not couple his neglect with "contempt of authority," when the penalty might be death.⁵¹ No one was that contemptuous.

The pressed troops were colony troops, not county troops. They might be disposed as garrisons in towns, when they were in theory at least subject to the control of the local trained band commander; or they might be assigned a roving or offensive mission, in which case they were not.⁵² Garrison troops were expected to be supported and paid by the town they protected, while expeditions were in colony pay.⁵³ Garrisons were not always desired by towns, except when the fear of Indian attack was great.⁵⁴

The Yorkshire Regiment itself also provided both garrisons and expeditionary forces—these at county expense.⁵⁵

At each level of military command there existed a civil authority with more or less responsibility in military affairs. Each town had a militia committee, composed of the three senior military officers and the Magistrate, or if none, the Deputy. This committee was responsible for the town stock of ammunition, fortifications, pressing men, notifying the adjacent towns of attack, and such matters.⁵⁶ On several occasions, at Casco, at Wells, and perhaps in Devonshire County, the General Court appointed committees by name.⁵⁷ The County Court was less important, but in Maine confirmed officers and exercised at least some court martial jurisdiction.⁵⁸

At the top was the General Court, which was in supreme command and exercised it. While in



A grenadier from Mallet's TRAVAUX DE MARS. . .

session it made strategic decisions, raised troops, appointed officers and commissaries, and decided a host of other matters, often in much detail. The Governor and Council, which acted when the General Court was not in session, carried out the General Court's instructions and made necessary decisions. Although the sergeant major general was in greater control of operations in Maine than in the campaigns conducted in King Philip's War itself, he was always subordinate to the Council, and sometimes ignored by it.⁵⁹

One permanent characteristic of Puritan Massachusetts was economy. This feature permeated its military organization. Even in the throes of King Philip's War, when the Colony was nearly thrown back into the Atlantic Ocean, no money was spent if it could be avoided. Discomfort, hardship, and suffering were preferable to spending government funds. Individuals furnished their own weapons, clothing, and equipment, and as militiamen their own ammunition.⁶⁰ Pressed troops serving for long periods in frontier garrisons sometimes received issues of clothing, or cloth to make up their own,

shoes, and bedding.⁶¹ These things, and rations and ammunition on active service, were supervised by commissaries, appointed to a particular expedition or garrison, or by the militia committee for town stocks.⁶²

Many men, particularly fishermen, were without guns, and there was a perpetual shortage of powder and shot on the Maine coast for local defense.⁶³ Expeditionary forces sent by the Bay seem to have had adequate supplies; at least no engagements were lost for want of it.

New England drill was, of course, patterned after European drill. There were no official regulations establishing a single method. Private texts were used. These envisioned rather large bodies of troops, both pikes and shot. The horse was a decisive arm under Cromwell, and its strength compelled the use of pikes to protect the musketeers, not yet able to develop sufficient firepower to keep off charging cavalry. Formations of foot were normally six deep, so that fire could be maintained continuously.

Troops formed at "order" or "open order"—the first at three feet interval and distance, and used for maneuvers, and the latter at six feet. The manual exercise was performed at the open order. Closer formations were not practical with the matchlock, and the use of the flintlock was not yet so general as to have an effect in reducing intervals. There were a multitude of maneuvers to be learned: counter-marches, inversions, and doublings; but all formations were heavy. There was a skirmish drill, but it lacked any concept of use of cover and concealment and was designed only to shelter the main body.⁶⁴

The Maine trained bands were not well exercised. Sometimes the Yorkshire companies went years without a drill. Devonshire may never have trained. There was a Yorkshire regimental training in 1674. On the other hand, the troops in Massachusetts, and especially in Boston, were fairly well drilled.⁶⁵

When it came to fighting the Indian War, these formations were of limited value. The Indians were masters of scoutcraft and fought a war of ambush. There were no pitched battles fought in Maine, though there were a few garrison houses besieged. Scouting was the ability needed to protect English forces and to find Indians, and the

English had little success in this line until they used Indians for scouts. In Maine, unlike in Massachusetts, even friendly Indians could not bring the hostiles to bay.⁶⁶

It may be worthwhile attempting an estimate of the military organization of Maine, and of the Bay Colony, as tested by King Philip's War. It was a reasonably efficient organization of the personnel and of the resources of the Colony. It enabled Massachusetts to develop a large proportion of its military strength, and it did meet a very heavy military strain in 1675 and 1676, while it kept sufficient of its economic strength to maintain itself with little or no help from outside New England. Not only did it continue to feed itself and support itself, it was able to require enough of the population's time and property to enable quick recovery after the war was over.

Although the system was copied from English organization, largely as it existed in Elizabethan times, it was so much an improvement and perfection of it that it acquired a character of its own. Present day American military organization is more directly descended from Elizabethan practice than is the English system of today, for it had become so decadent in England as to be completely redesigned by Cromwell and again, for other reasons, after the Restoration.

In the strategic and tactical sphere it did not do as well; Indian warfare was nothing like the European warfare the trained bands prepared for. By the end of the War there was a body of experienced but unlearned soldiers who had discovered something of scouting and firepower, and these were a good start on the American military tradition.

New England by the end of King Philip's War, from the military point of view, was newer and newer and less and less English.

* * *

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LIEUTENANT METCALFE'S DETACHABLE MAGAZINE

by Milton F. Perry

It is not generally known that the "first detachable and disposable magazine for the military rifle" was invented by an American, Captain Henry Metcalfe, USMA, Class of 1868.¹ Metcalfe took great pride in this attachment, even though it was never adopted by any military force in the world. Most students of the United States Army's weapons are vaguely familiar with these devices, but few of them are aware of the nature of the invention or the successive models that were produced.

There was a total of five distinct types which represent its progressive development from 1872-1876, but the last four were in reality little more than modifications of the first.²

It would appear that Metcalfe developed his first "magazine" in the summer of 1872 at the behest of the Ordnance Department which was then preparing itself for extensive tests later that year from which would emerge the famous "45-70" Model of 1873 Rifle and Carbine.³ The first definitive reference to the device was not until 3 March 1873 when the recorder of the Arms Selecting Board was directed "to request the commanding officer [sic] of the [Springfield] armory [sic] to prepare . . . a suitable detachable magazine for the Springfield musket. . . ." The board then adjourned for a month while it was being made.⁴

(Undoubtedly, Metcalfe had been considering the magazine before this for he had been fully occupied as the self same recorder of the board since it had convened.)

On 1 April the first model was ready, and was submitted along with half a dozen other ideas from various sources.⁵ It was a block of "white wood," 6-1/8 x 1-1/16 x 21/32 inches, bored on the flat narrow top with a row of ten holes large enough to admit the same number of .45 caliber cartridges. Each end was chamfered on one side, to which were attached wire loops that passed through the block and were clinched on the opposite (or front) face. The cartridges were placed base up in the holes. The bases and part of the cartridge casing were uncovered, but a pasteboard cap fitted over them and was held in place by a strip of paper pasted along the point with the block. This was removed by pulling a string that was glued under the paper strip.

Metcalfe intended that the magazine would be attached to the right side of the rifle, just forward of the receiver, where it was adjacent to the right (or operating) hand of the shooter. The soldier would snap the block in place by putting the forward wire loop into an opening cut in the lower barrel band, and then snapping an indentation of the other loop into a stay pin set in the stock.⁶ The original model is now at the West Point Museum, where it was presented by Metcalfe in 1923.⁷ (See *MC&H*, X, pp. 83-84).

To facilitate transporting the blocks, Metcalfe designed a cartridge box by cutting down one of an older model. Two blocks were carried inside the box and another on the front, just as it was affixed to the rifle. The inside blocks, he attached by a leather strap attached to the back of the interior. "It serves," he wrote, "to raise the inside blocks into an accessible position, and by holding down the outside block, to permit the taking from it of single cartridges when desired"⁸ (See *MC&H*, IX, pp. 49-50).

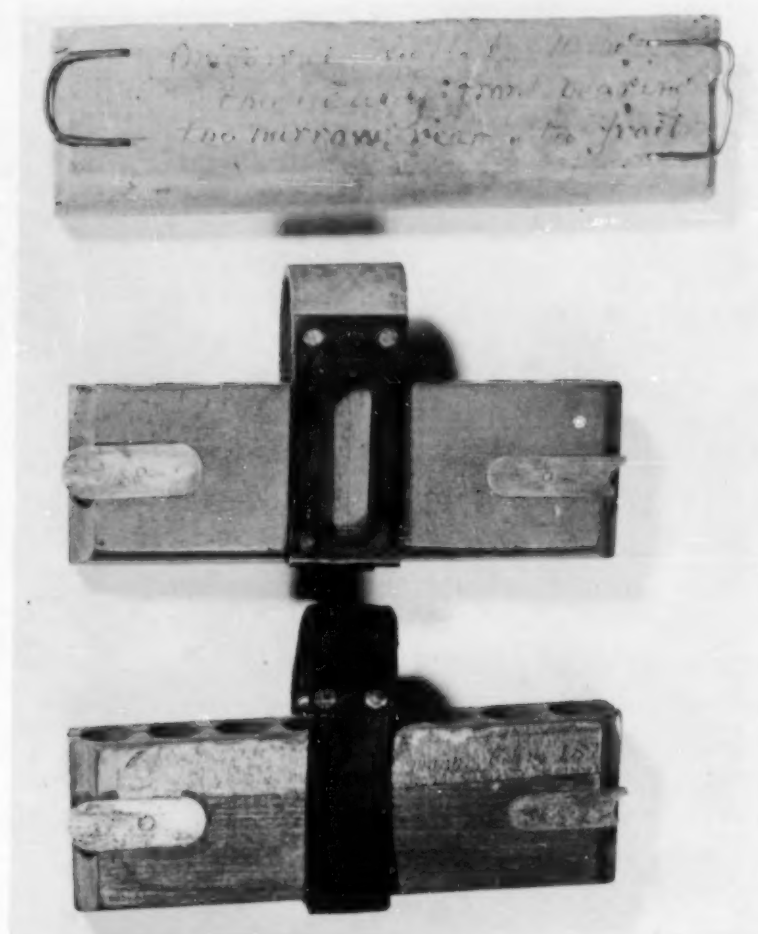
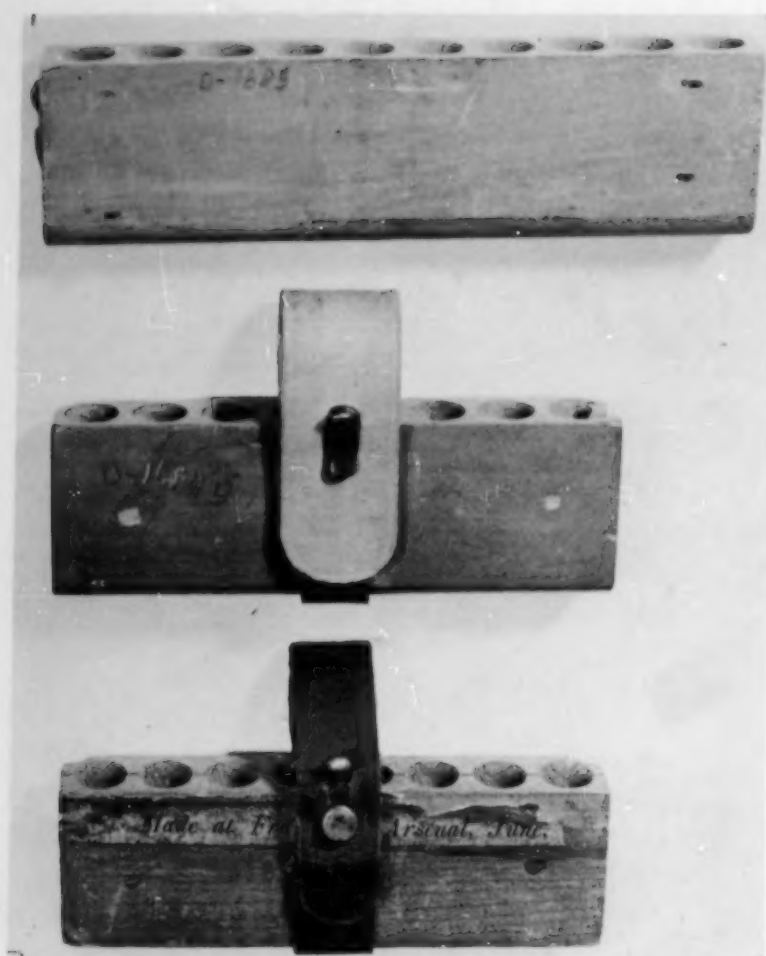
Soon afterwards—at the behest of the Ordnance Department—Metcalfe designed an eight-round magazine that was exactly like the first except in length. Then, probably in March 1873, he made his first modification, which consisted of replacing the front loop of wire with a small piece of sheet iron and changing the rifle so that this new "front recoil bearing" fitted directly on a key—behind the rear band.⁹ No surviving example of this block (Model II) is known to exist.

The board studied plans of the blocks on 2 April and, on the 25th, tested them at Springfield. A soldier was able to fire ten rounds in thirty-three seconds, or a rate of 18½ shots a minute. Again, on 3 May, the tester was able to get off ten shots in twenty-five seconds,—twenty-four per minute—on a first test, and nine in twenty-three seconds (24 a minute) in a second attempt. Even then, the board decided "not to consider the subject of detachable magazines."¹⁰

The reasons for this dismissal of the subject are not given in the report of the board, but it was noted that the same shooter, using the same rifle as in the last tests of the magazine, fired 21.4 shots a minute with a standard cartridge box. Appar-



Lieutenant Henry Metcalfe's cartridge block attachment on rifle waist-belt and plate from which the line drawing in ORDNANCE MEMORANDA 19 was made. Metcalfe therein describes this belt as "light, cheap and ornamental . . . protected by the flap from wearing or soiling the clothing." A limited number of these complete accoutrements were authorized by the Army Selecting Board on 24 November 1874 to be prepared and issued to different regiments for trial in actual service. Photograph courtesy of the West Point Museum.



Metcalfe's cartridge blocks at the West Point Museum. Front and back views. Top: "Original Model," 10-round capacity; Middle: Model III; Bottom: Model IV. Photographs courtesy of the West Point Museum.

ently the difference was not enough to warrant the change.¹¹ In addition, Metcalfe noted what appear to have been other reasons on the original model of the block: "too heavy; front bearing too narrow; rear too frail."¹²

This was not to be the end of the matter, however, for a year later Metcalfe's cartridge blocks were examined by another board that had been convened to "consider . . . and to recommend the adoption of an equipment best suited to troops serving as infantry. . . ."¹³

At Watervliet Arsenal he personally demonstrated an "improved" version of the magazine as well as a new set of attachments on 10 September 1874. The blocks were again discussed and, at adjournment the board invited him to meet with them on the morrow and "give a test of its merits."¹⁴

This time, Metcalfe met with distinct success and a request was submitted by the board to the Chief of Ordnance to have Springfield Armory make two rifles with the new attachments, two with the older type, 1,000 8-cartridge blocks and a

similar number of 10-cartridge types.¹⁵ Only a few of the latter were made, however, for on 23 October, the board asked that further production be suspended "as those holding eight . . . are thought to possess greater merit."¹⁶

Lieutenant Metcalfe now proceeded to make a strong bid for his blocks and addressed a lengthy letter on 19 November to the board that thoroughly discussed their "several advantages." Among them, he noted, were that "it affords . . . a good package for the cartridges . . . are nearly indestructible in transportation or by wet: . . . keeps the cartridges from jostling together . . . and protects them from dust and sand, . . ."¹⁷ They made a "convenient package . . . if an extra supply of ammunition had to be carried in the . . . pockets," provided a "good, firm grip" on the projecting cartridges—an "essential in cold weather; they were cheap to make and increased the rate of fire.

The invention would not, as some of the more conservative officers apparently claimed, increase the waste of ammunition—an argument that is al-

ways thrown in the face of every attempt to allow the soldier to fire faster. On the contrary, he wrote, the officers themselves could control the rate of fire by using the command "fix blocks" as they desired.

Another advantage, he felt, was that the magazine made it easier for the soldier to fire while prone, for all the action would be with the right hand. Also, the cartridges could be seen and counted. Of equal importance was an advantage that offset one of the drawbacks of the new rifles—it would permit the soldier to reload without touching the hot barrel.

An additional merit was that the blocks would enable the troops to know where their ammunition was at all times, even if they had taken their belts off. "In case of a surprise," he said, "they have but one thing to look for—the gun."¹⁸

Furthermore, he wrote, it had been proved that the added weight of a loaded block reduced recoil—actually by six pounds. Dollarwise, the conversion of the rifles was not great, no more than 60 or 70 cents each.

From the soldiers' standpoint he thought an even distribution of weight could be achieved by hooking the blocks to a waist belt. They would also like the feasibility of throwing away empty blocks, for there would be no carrying "as much dead weight for a single cartridge box as for a full. . . ."

Perhaps somewhat overenthusiastically he claimed that the carrier "when empty, forms a convenient attachment for any little articles . . . it may be desired to carry—the tin drinking-cup, etc."¹⁹

The "improved" block referred to by Metcalfe was a logical modification of Models I and II. Generally, it was somewhat smaller—5 x 1-3/4 x 11/16 inches—and bored to accommodate eight rounds of ammunition. Model III, which he had submitted for field trial in August had two iron plates riveted to the ends in place of the wire loops. These he christened the "recoil plate" (front) and the "cam plate" (back). It was the first model to have his "carrier"—a steel hook that fitted around the body, to which a leather strap was attached. The waist belt passed through two layers of steel on the back, and the strap buttoned to a steel spring hook. When depressed, the smaller hook released the tension of the larger and enabled the operator to remove the block. The carrier and strap were both one inch wide.²⁰

Model IV differed in details. The larger hook was 3/4" wide and the leather strap was doubled in the back to admit the waist belt. It buttoned to a brass rather than a steel button.

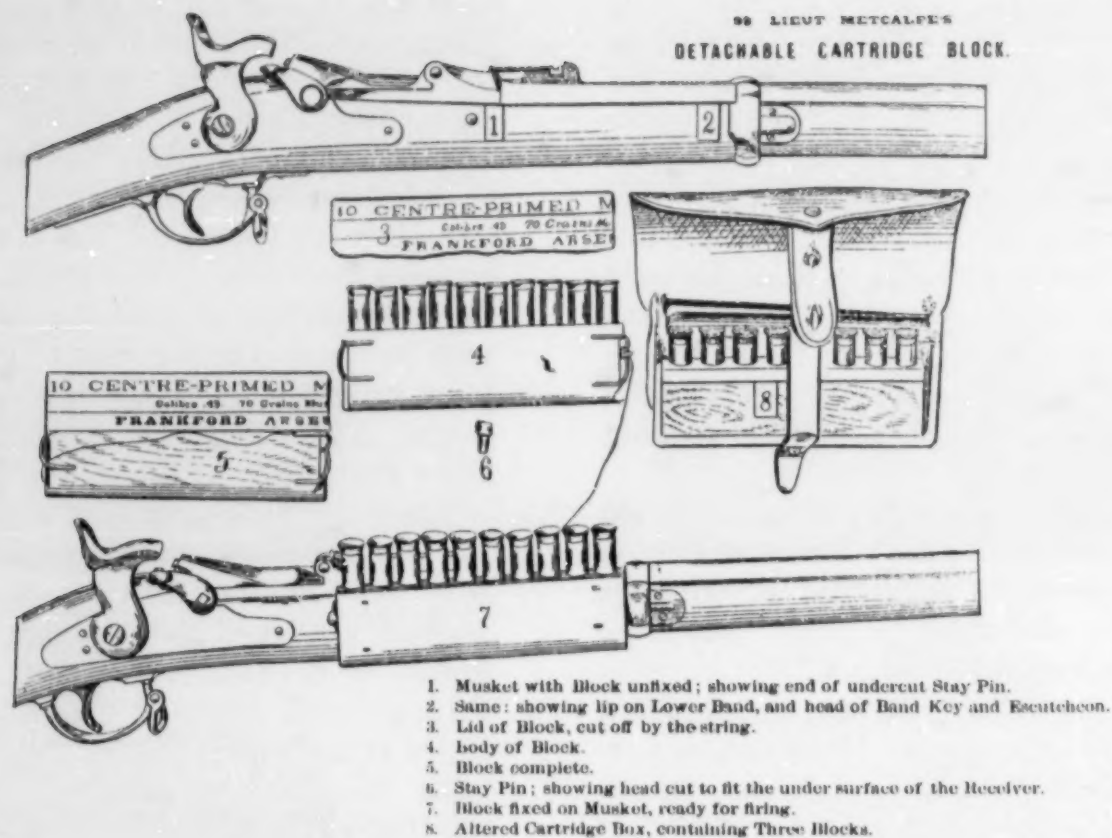
Another change without question resulted from the test by troops in the field. This was a thin saw-cut along the top of the block, from end to end, crossing each hole. It was to facilitate removal of the ammunition in case the block was swollen with moisture. The idea was to provide "a starting point, from which, by giving a wrench to the cartridges, the block may be split open sufficiently to allow them to be easily withdrawn."²¹

There seems to have been a fifth model as well, for that illustrated in *Ordnance Memoranda 19* is somewhat different than any of the specimens described. The recoil plate is larger and has two holes bored in it. The button also differs in shape. Stranger still, Metcalfe describes only Model IV in the text, while picturing the last type.

In his later magazines, Metcalfe designed another way of attaching them to the rifle. He provided a steel strap set in the right side of the stock connecting with the lock plate and held in place by the rear band. A slot received the recoil plate and a cam, activated by a key, secured the rear plate.

All of the reasons why the Metcalfe magazines were never adopted are unknown, but the shortcomings are obvious. One thing is certain: the Army gave them a fair trial, for a total of 34,692 were made. If they hadn't been so expendable, examples would be far more common in collections than today's varieties. Six thousand carriers were also made, like the blocks at Springfield. The blocks cost only 14 cents apiece—a bit more than the inventor's original estimate of 2.5-3 cents.²²

It would appear that Lieutenant Metcalfe was very persistent or that he was strongly backed by his superiors, or both, for in 1876 he was placed in a position whereby his magazines could receive the greatest of attention. This was his assignment to prepare the Ordnance Department's displays at the Philadelphia Centennial. There, on a dummy of an infantryman was conspicuously displayed the blocks, a belt designed for them and a rifle with the attachments. This also rated a fairly detailed explanation in the catalog—written by Metcalfe.²³ Yet, all his endeavors were for naught, for none of the equipment was ever adopted.



Metcalfe's cartridge blocks as illustrated in ORDNANCE MEMORANDA 19.

EDITORS' NOTE: We have touched on this subject in our Collector's Fieldbook section twice in two years, however, with this able study we feel our previous articles are not only brought into perspective, but the best available information regarding Metcalfe's cartridge blocks and their allied equipment is presented through our pages.

REFERENCES

¹ Metcalfe made this claim for his magazines as early as 1891. (Bvt. Major General George W. Cullum, *Biographical Register of the Officers and Graduates of the U.S. Military* . . . Boston, 1891, Vol. III, p. 110.) He reiterated it in 1923. (Captain Henry Metcalfe, U.S.A. [Ret] to Adjutant, USMA, 19 June 1923, West Point Museum Historical Files.) It was also published in his obituary in 1930. (*Sixty-First Annual Report of the Association of Graduates of the United States Military Academy* . . . West Point, 1930, p. 85.) Insofar as the writer has been able to discover, his claim has never been disputed.

² Metcalfe to Adjutant, USMA, 19 June 1923, *loc. cit.* In this letter he listed only three models, the "original," "intermediate" and "last." The author has identified at least two more. It must be remembered that the letter was written 40 years after this first model was produced, when Metcalfe was 75 years old.

³ General Orders No. 58, W.D. AGO, 28 June 1872 called the board to meet in New York on 3 September.

⁴ *Report of the Board of Officers . . . for the Purpose of Selecting a Breech-System for the Muskets and Carbines of the Military Service*, . . . Washington, 1873, p. 51. (Hereafter cited as: *Ordnance Memoranda 15*.)

⁵ *Ibid.*, pp. 336-339.

⁶ *Ibid.*, p. 337.

⁷ Metcalfe's letter accompanying the presentation clearly calls this the original model. (Metcalfe to Adjutant, USMA, 6 July 1923, West Point Museum Historical Files.) Furthermore, the

same information is written on the block itself—in the inventor's hand, with old, faded ink, long before the letter was signed. None of Metcalfe's personal papers have been found. One collection, and perhaps it was the most revealing, consisted of correspondence with Col. Stephen V. Benet, the Chief of Ordnance, but it was unfortunately destroyed some years ago.

⁸ *Ordnance Memoranda 15*, p. 337.

⁹ *Ibid.*

¹⁰ *Ibid.*, pp. 52, 101, 103, 57.

¹¹ *Ibid.*, p. 103.

¹² West Point Museum Accession D-1685.

¹³ Special Orders Number 120, WD AGO, 1 June 1874. This board convened at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, and then moved to other locations.

¹⁴ *Proceedings of the Board of Officers . . . on Infantry-Equipments* . . . Washington, 1875, p. 17. Hereafter cited as: *Ordnance Memoranda 19*.

¹⁵ *Ibid.*, p. 17.

¹⁶ *Ibid.*, pp. 51-52.

¹⁷ *Ibid.*

¹⁸ *Ibid.*, pp. 51-52.

¹⁹ Descriptions from West Point Museum Accession D-1684B and *Ibid.*, p. 49.

²⁰ *Ibid.*, p. 47 and West Point Museum Accession D-1684B.

²¹ *Ibid.*, p. 54 and West Point Museum Accession D-1684A.

²² *Manufactures at the National Armory, 1872-1877*, 45th Congress, 3rd Session, Senate Executive Document Number 16, p. 6, 53.

²³ 1st Lieutenant Henry Metcalfe, *The War Department, U. S. Army at the International Exhibition, 1876*, Washington, 1884, pp. 784, 753.

MILITARY DRESS

A REPRODUCTION OF THE 1830 NAVAL UNIFORM REGULATIONS

by Captain James C. Tily, CEC, USN

Although the Naval General Order, approved 10 May 1820, and effective 1 May 1821, technically can be listed as the first illustrated uniform regulation of the Navy, the regulations for the "Uniform Dress" for Officers of the Navy of the United States" issued in 1830, was the first to contain any appreciable data in the form of illustrations.¹

The 1820 instructions contain only a sketch in the text showing the arrangement of gold lace above the two buttons on the skirts of the full dress coats of captains of over five years standing, and a single drawing showing the four types of buttons to be worn by officers, to denote rank and class. By contrast, the regulations of 1830 which are reproduced herewith, contain patterns for the gold embroidery to be worn by certain sea officers; surgeons, and pursers, and also the design of the Navy sword.

It is considered that the uniform regulations of 1830 are most important in connection with the dress of officers of the Navy, for, for the first time, the live-oak and acorn are used, and also for the first time, staff or civil officers are assigned an identifying device. Today, the oak leaf and acorn is used as decoration on the visors of the caps of senior officers of the Navy, and the oak leaf is the base for most of the devices of the various staff corps.

The choice of the live oak as a basis for the design of the embroidery was most appropriate, for live oak had long been a prized timber for shipbuilding. Early in the history of the nation, steps had been taken to secure adequate stands of live oak timber to supply the future needs of the Navy.² Although the staff and serpent device assigned to the surgeons evidently did not please

them, for it was changed to an oak branch in 1832, the rod of Aesculapius had had a long connection with healing and medicine.³ From the days of Greek mythology, both the staff and the caduceus of Mercury had been symbols of physicians. The cornucopia was a rather good symbol for use by the pursers, for they provided the food for the crew, and many other supplies needed for a happy ship. It was certainly more elaborate than the sprig of three oak leaves and three acorns worn as the device of the Supply Corps today.

While it was not difficult to secure a copy of the printed text of the 1830 regulations, it was much more time consuming to locate the patterns. The National Archives had photostats of the drawings, with the exception of the surgeon's device, and the manuscript collection of the Naval Historical Foundation at the Library of Congress has an original copy of the order, but only those patterns which refer to the embroidery to be worn by Line officers. Inquiries addressed to those societies known to have collections of naval material were unsuccessful, but attention was directed to an illustration in a book, which included a reproduction of a Naval surgeon of the period. The National Library of Medicine kindly provided a reproduction of this illustration which is the basis of the reconstruction of the device.

REFERENCES

¹ Naval General Order, 1 May 1830, effective 31 December 1830.

² Act of Congress, 25 February 1799.

³ Naval General Order, 20 January 1832, effective 4 July 1832.

My appreciation to Edgar Wischnowski for arranging for and making the reproductions for the illustrations, and for the sketch of the surgeon's device.

**Navy Department,
1st May, 1830.**

After the 31st day of December, 1830, the "Uniform Dress" for the Officers of the Navy of the United States, shall be as hereinafter described, and to which all Officers of the Navy are directed to conform.

JNO. BRANCH.

NAVY UNIFORM.

FULL DRESS.—*Captains.*

Coat of dark blue cloth lined with white, double breasted, with long lapels; the width to be in proportion to the size of the coat, and cut with a swell, to be buttoned back with nine buttons on each lapel, and an equal number of blind button holes worked in twist, as long as the width of the lapels will allow.—Standing collar to be lined with white, and embroidered in gold round the upper edge and sides with a rope, and with leaves of live oak, interspersed with acorns, *as per pattern*. The cuffs to have four buttons, and open underneath with two small buttons and holes of twist, and embroidered as the collar, with a rope on the upper part above the button, and with the live oak leaf and acorn, *as per pattern*. The pocket flaps to be embroidered in gold, the same as the collar and cuffs, the lower part and sides to have a rope, and the flap to be embroidered in gold with the live oak leaf and acorn, *as per pattern*, and the lower edge to be cut as may be prevailing in fashion, with four buttons underneath, one button on each hip, two near the middle of the folds, and one at the bottom of each skirt: the pockets to be in the folds. Two gold epauletts, ~~one on each shoulder~~.

Vest—White single breasted, with as many small Navy buttons as are worn on the breast of the coat—standing collar coming to the edge of the breast, and sloping in a line with it—breast straight, with pocket flaps, under each of which four small buttons.

Breeches—White with small Navy buttons, and gold or gilt knee buckles, white silk stockings, shoes and gold or gilt buckles, or plain white pantaloons over short boots, or with shoes and buckles.

UNDRESS.—*Captains.*

Coat of dark blue cloth, lined with the same, rolling collar, and made according to the prevailing fashion of citizens for the time, with nine buttons on each breast, four under the pocket flaps, and round the cuffs, and in the folds, &c. as for full dress.

Vests—Plain white or blue, single breasted, with the same number of small Navy buttons on the breast and pocket flaps, as for full dress.

Pantaloons—Plain blue; or in warm weather white. To be worn over half boots, or, with shoes and stockings.

FULL DRESS.—*Masters Commandant.*

Coats to be made in all respects like the Captains, with the following exceptions, viz: No embroidery on the pocket flaps, and three buttons to be substituted instead of four, under the pocket flaps and on the cuffs. But one button also in lieu of two, in the middle of the skirt fold.

UNDRESS.—*Masters Commandant.*

The same as Captains, with the exception of the buttons, which will be, as designated for full dress.

FULL DRESS.—*Lieutenants.*

In all respects like Masters Commandant, with the exception of the embroidery on the cuffs of the coat. One epaulet, and that to be worn on the right shoulder.

UNDRESS.—*Lieutenants.*

Same as Masters Commandant, with the exception of one epaulet in lieu of two.

FULL DRESS.—*Passed Midshipmen.*

Coat to be the same as Masters Commandant, with the exception of the embroidery, which is to be the live oak leaf, with acorns, and a foul anchor, with a five point embroidered star, to be arranged as per pattern.

UNDRESS.—*Passed Midshipmen.*

Coat of blue cloth, lined with the same, standing collar, with the same number of buttons on the breast, pockets, flaps, cuffs, and folds, as for full dress, together with the anchor and star (without the embroidery) formed of white cloth inserted in the collar on each side, as has been directed for full dress.

FULL DRESS.—Midshipmen.

Coat of blue cloth, lined with white, standing collar, and single breasted. Nine buttons on the right breast, and short button holes on the left. Embroidery same as passed Midshipmen's, with the exception of the star. Buttons on cuffs, pocket flaps, and folds, same as passed Midshipmen.

UNDRESS.—Midshipmen.

Round Jacket—cloth, blue, and lining of the same: standing collar, with the anchor inserted in white cloth: breast single; buttons arranged as on full dress coats, but to be small instead of large.

FULL DRESS.—Masters.

Coat of blue cloth, with one button on each side of the collar, with a button hole of gold lace, to be three-quarters of an inch wide, and three inches long; and buttons round the cuffs, in other respects, the same as Masters Commandant, with the exception of the embroidery and epaulets.

UNDRESS.—Masters.

Same as Lieutenants, with the exception of the epaulet.

FULL DRESS.—Surgeons.

Coat in all respects like Masters Commandant, with the exception of the epaulets and embroidery, the latter of which is to consist of the live oak leaf, on the upper and front edges of the collar, and around the cuffs. The club of Esculapius is also to be embroidered on the collar.—*The whole as per pattern.*

UNDRESS.—Surgeons.

Same as Lieutenants, with the exception that the collar and cuffs are to be of black velvet, and a strip of gold lace half an inch wide, around the upper part of the cuffs.

FULL DRESS.—Pursers.

Coat in all respects like surgeons, with the exception that a Cornucopia is to be substituted for the club of Esculapius: as per pattern.

UNDRESS.—Pursers.

Same in every respect as Lieutenants, with the exception of the epaulet.

FULL DRESS.—Assistant Surgeons.

Coat in all respects like surgeons, with the exception of the embroidery on the cuffs.

UNDRESS.—Assistant Surgeons.

Same as Surgeons, with the exception of the lace upon the cuffs.

FULL DRESS.—Boatswain, Gunner, Carpenter and Sail-maker.

Coat of dark blue cloth, lined with the same, double breasted, lapels to be buttoned back with eight buttons, standing collar with one button on each side; slashed sleeve with three small Navy buttons, three large buttons under the pocket flaps, one on each hip and bottom of skirt fold.

Pantaloon—White, to be worn over short boots.

Vests—To be plain white, with eight buttons on the breast.

UNDRESS.—Boatswain, Carpenter, Gunner and Sail-maker.

Coatee of dark blue cloth, lined with the same, rolling collar, double breasted, with buttons as on full dress except on collar.

Chaplains.

Plain black coat, vest and pantaloons, the pantaloons to be worn over boots or shoes, or black breeches, silk stockings with shoes, coat to have three black covered buttons under pocket flaps and on the cuffs.

Schoolmasters and Clerks.

Coat of plain blue cloth, single breasted, rolling collar, and made according to the prevailing fashion for the citizens at the time, with six Navy buttons on each breast, one on each hip, and one on the bottom of the skirts.

Epaulets.

All officers entitled to wear epaulets, are to wear gold lace straps on their shoulders, $\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch wide, to distinguish their rank when without their epaulets.

Epaulets are not to be worn on shore in foreign ports with round hats, but with cocked hats or caps.

Captains are to wear two epaulets of gold, each with two rows of bullion, on each strap to be in silver, an eagle couched upon an anchor as per pattern. Those captains who are entitled to wear a broad pendant (by order of the Secretary of the Navy) to wear a silver embroidered star, one inch in diameter, above the eagle, during the time they are in actual command. The senior officer of the Navy at all times entitled to wear the decoration on the epaulets of a commander of a squadron. Master's Commandant are to wear two of gold, same as Captains, with the exception of the ornament of the straps. Lieutenants—one of gold, and plain like Masters Commandants, to be worn on the right shoulder.

Buttons.

The buttons to be worn by all officers, are to be the present pattern for Captains, or what is called No. 1. when small buttons are not specified, the large ones are to be worn.

Cocked Hats.

All officers, excepting Chaplains, Schoolmasters, Clerks, Boatswains, Gunners, Carpenters and Sailmakers, are to wear, in full dress, cocked hats bound with black riband, to show one inch and a half on each side, with gold tassels formed with five gold and five blue bullions each, a black silk cockade, with a loop formed with gold lace, and a small Navy button. Captains and Masters Commandant only, to wear when in full dress, gold laced hats, with six bullion loops, the two inner ones to be twisted together.

Swords

Are to be cut and thrust, the blade not exceeding 30, nor to be less than 26 inches in length, to be slightly curved; breadth of longest blade, one and three-tenths inches, of shortest, one and two-tenths inches. The gripe of those for Captains, Masters Commandant, Lieutenants, with other commissioned officers, and Midshipmen, to be white; other officers entitled to wear swords, to have black gripes, all to be yellow mounted, and with eagle heads and black leather scabbards.—
See pattern.

All officers in full dress, or when wearing their epaulets on shore, are to wear swords, excepting Chaplains, Schoolmasters and Clerks.

Stocks, &c.

All officers are to wear stocks or cravats of black, the collar of the shirt to be shewn above it, both in full and undress. Officers in undress without their epaulets, shall wear round hats, with rose-formed black silk cockades; or blue cloth caps may be worn, with or without epaulets, in undress. When on board ship, officers may wear short blue jackets, with the number of buttons designated for their respective coats; grey cloth or brown drilling trousers, with black vests.

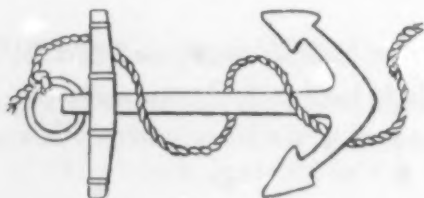
Belts.

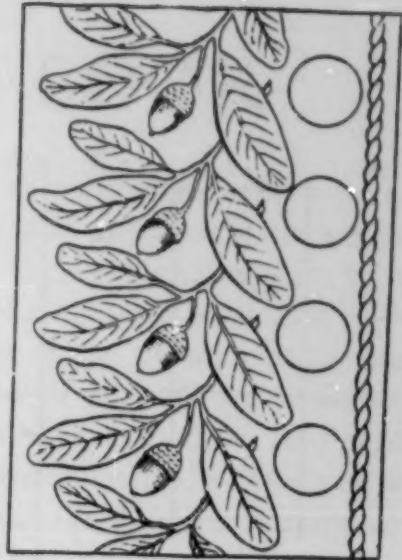
Blue webbing for undress, white webbing for full dress, as per pattern.

Sword Knots

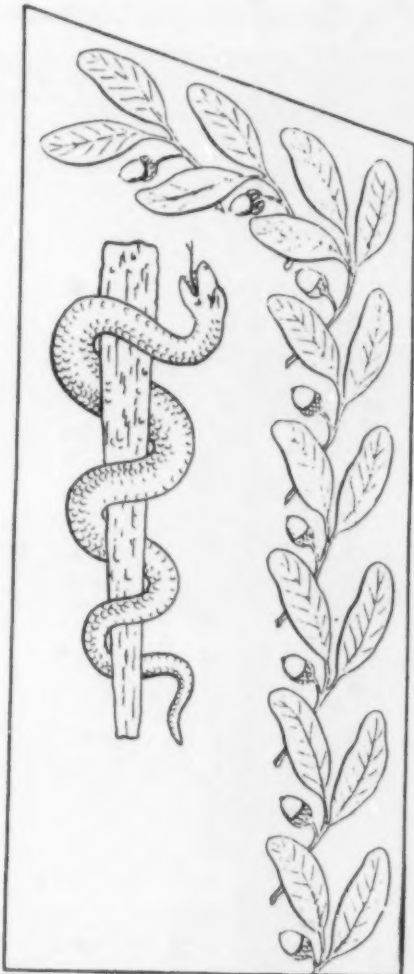
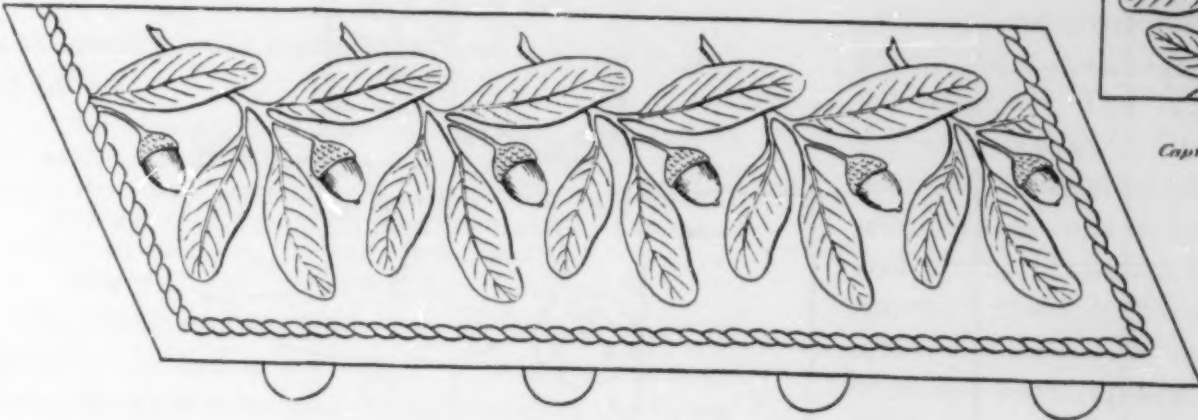
Blue and gold rope, with twelve gold bullions.

Captains, Commanders, and Lieutenants, to wear a band of gold lace, one and a half inches wide, round their caps; the caps of all other officers to be plain.

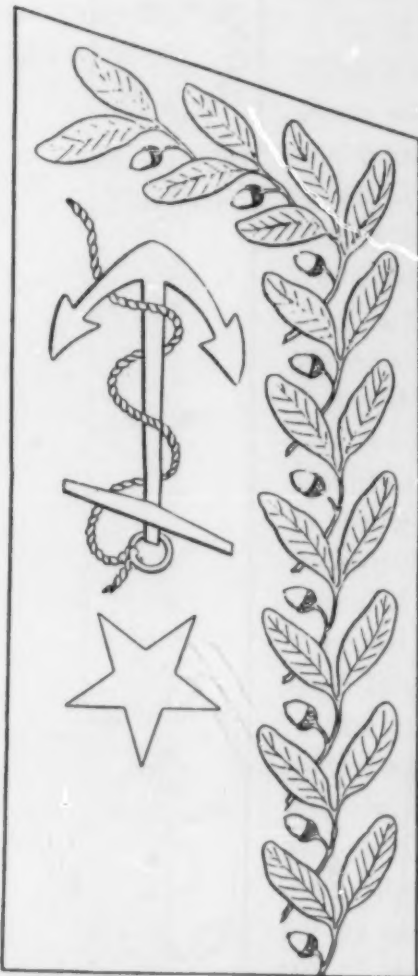




Captain's full dress.



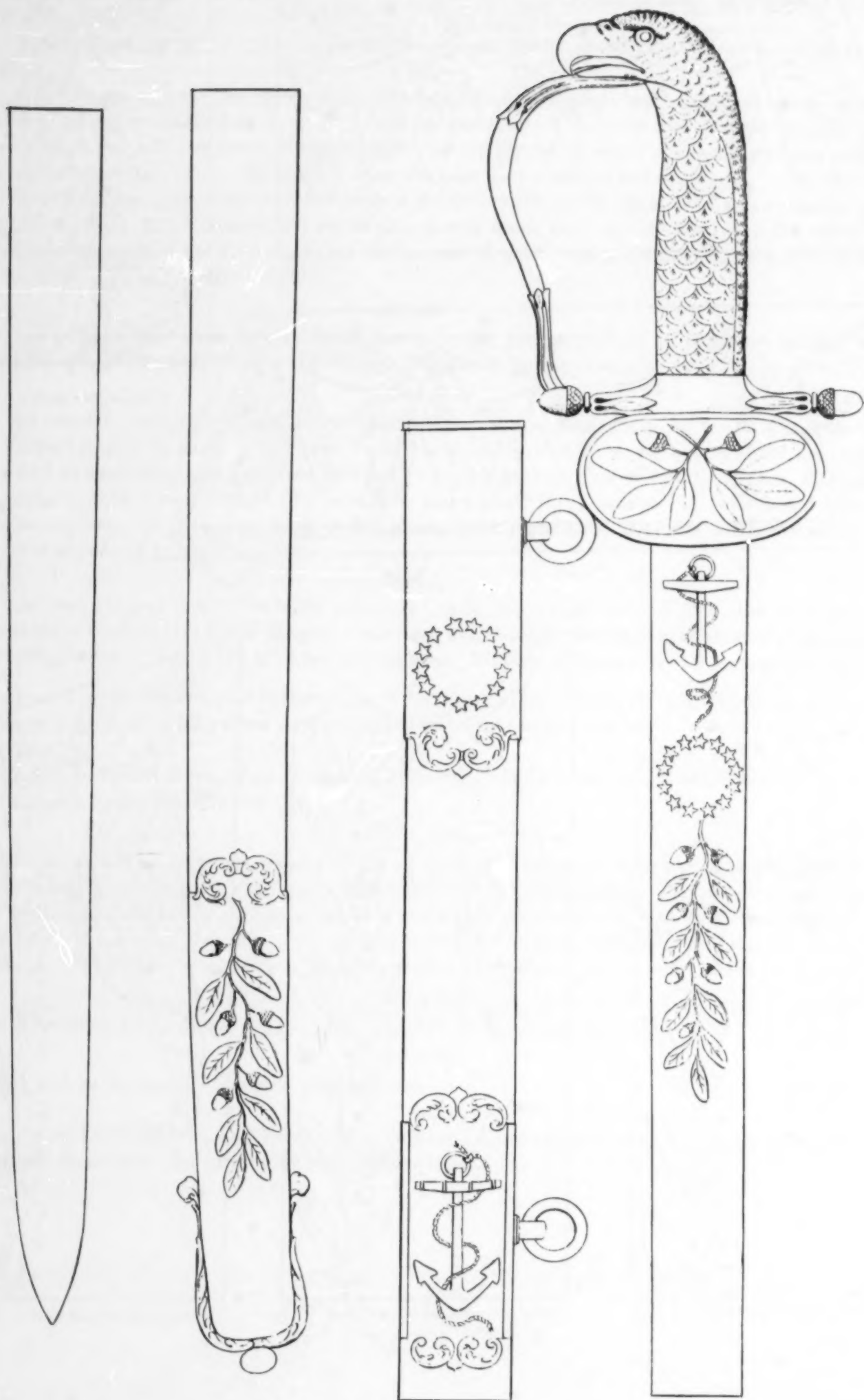
Collar for Surgeon's full dress.



*Collar for Midshipman's full dress.
Star to be added when passed*



Collar for Purser's full dress.



COLLECTOR'S FIELD BOOK

THE MILFORD (CONNECTICUT) GRENADIERS¹

During the latter part of the 18th century many militia regiments were organized because a possible war with France was imminent. One of the outstanding Connecticut units organized at this time was the Milford Grenadiers. On 15 April 1795 a group of young men from Milford signed a voluntary enlistment document reading in part as follows:

We, the subscribers, hereby acknowledge ourselves to be voluntarily enlisted into a company of Grenadiers, to serve in the Thirty Second Regiment, in the Second Brigade of Militia of the State. . . . In witness whereof we have hereunto set our hands and seals.

State of Connecticut, Milford, April 15th day, 1795.

The foregoing was written on a half sheet of foolscap, folded in the center which, in course of time, became torn and separated and the lower half lost. On the back of the sheet, apparently in continuation, are the names of 25 of the company.



Unfortunately, research has failed to uncover the names of others who might have made up the original unit. Upon their organizing, they were placed on the right of the regiment as the 1st Flank Company. They were quite proud of this honor and held it for the major part of their existence.

Daniel Sacket was elected the first captain and held this commission until 1797 when he was commissioned a major. In 1801 he became colonel of the regiment. The original uniform consisted of scarlet coat with buff facings, gold lace trimmings, drab knee breeches with buckles, boots with tassels, pointed caps of red cloth front and buff back and plume of ostrich feathers, as in the painting shown, a reconstruction done for the Milford Historical Society. In the early 1800's the buff breeches were replaced with blue trousers and in 1815 white trousers were adopted and were used for the remainder of the company's existence.

In 1816, by a reorganization of the militia, the 32nd Regiment became the 2nd Regiment. William Fenn was colonel of the regiment at this time having been captain of the Grenadiers in 1807. The Grenadiers attained their greatest numerical strength in 1816, having in all 70 men. This was the year that the New Haven Grays were organized, known as the 2nd Flank Company. Much friendly rivalry existed between these two units.

Sometime between 1816 and 1823 the pointed cap was replaced with a round leather hat with shield in front. It was decorated with a red plume in front, five bullet type buttons around the top of the crown, and four buttons around the false neck-piece. A photograph of the hat worn by Captain Richard Oviatt, now in the possession of the Milford Historical Society, accompanies this article.

The year 1823 seems to have been the beginning of the end for the Grenadiers. Because of Militia Regulations regarding seniority of rank, The New Haven Grays became the 1st Flank Company. Being deprived of the honor position they had held for 28 years seems to have demoralized the men in the Grenadiers. Many resigned and the ranks became thinned. In 1827, with Alfred Mallet as captain, they again became the 1st Flank Company but the enthusiasm of remaining men was gone



and the ranks continued to thin out. On 5 August 1836 the remaining members of the Grenadiers, 25 in number, assembled on the Milford Green at the corner of Broad and Wharf Streets for their final muster. A large crowd of spectators from Milford and neighboring towns as well as representatives from other militia companies were on hand to pay their respects to an outstanding organization. After a short ceremony the 1st Flank Company disbanded and the Milford Grenadiers, with a record of 42 years' service, became just a memory. General Orders dated 5 August 1836 and signed by William Hayden, Adjutant General reads in part as follows:

The first Flank Company, 2nd Regiment, Connecticut Infantry are hereby dissolved and disbanded.

Waverly P. Lewis

¹ Notes compiled from *History of New Haven County*, the official history of the New Haven Grays, information in the Milford Historical Society, and a short history of the Milford Grenadiers by Fowler, available at the Historical Society.

NEWLY DISCOVERED BELT PLATE

Among other considerations, one factor that makes the pursuit of knowledge concerning early American military material a source of continuing interest, is the fact that something new is always

turning up. Recently while spending the holidays with some friends, I happened to note an Ambrotype of a soldier and naturally examined it. It was tinted—the uniform is grey, the kepi having a red top. Observation of the oval belt plate under a glass revealed the fact that it was one heretofore totally unknown to me. It bears three letters, i.e.: "S M M", and appears to be of the conventional 3.5" x 2.2" size.

Inquiry revealed that the identity of the young soldier was unknown, but that he was one of the family and either from Missouri or Kentucky. The three letters on the kepi are "A Z C", the "Z" probably representing "Zouave", the "C" "Company". It is considered quite likely that the letter device on the belt plate represents "State (of) Missouri Militia," as no Kentucky connotation can be connected with these letters. This, however, is a postulation on my part.

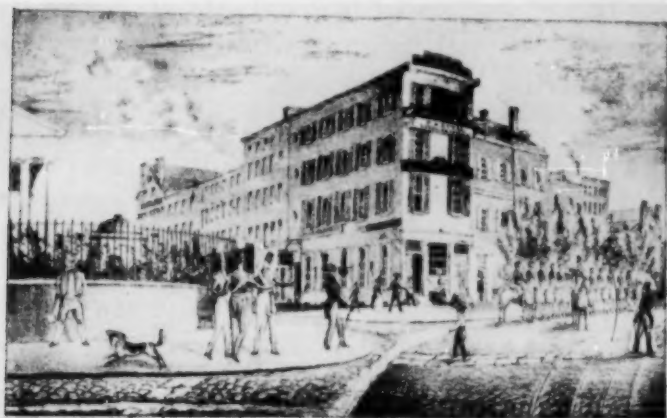
Any member of THE COMPANY who has any knowledge of such a plate, organization, or information relative to the meaning of "S M M" is urged to communicate with the writer.

Sidney C. Kerksis

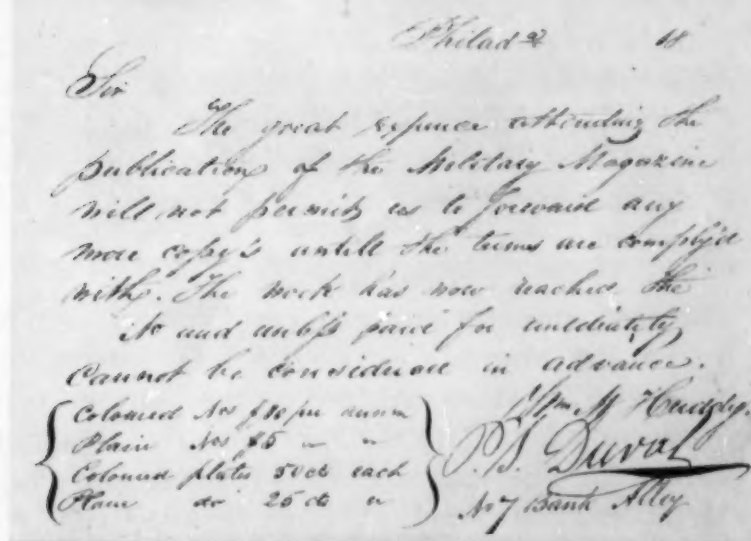


HUDDY AND DUVAL FORM LETTER

Illustrated herewith is a copy of an original form letter sent to subscribers of Huddy & Duval's military magazine. It is obviously signed by both of the important proprietors and is of interest both for the prices quoted and the unusual lithograph used for a heading. I include with this an excerpt from Nicholas B. Wainwright, *Romantic Age of Lithography* (Philadelphia, 1958) which provides a brief sketch of the firm's history.



P.S. Duval: Lithographic Establishment & Office of the U. S. Military Magazine by Huddy & Duval, 371, South Alley Philadelphia



William M. Huddy, a young major in the Philadelphia militia had a reputation for industry and artistic talent. Early in 1837 he was reduced to destitution by a disastrous fire, and for several months lay dangerously ill. Such was his popularity that on his recovery Burton [William Evans Burton, the actor] staged a benefit theatrical performance which netted Huddy fifty dollars. Continuing his career as a fancy and miniature painter—"Painting for Clubs, Military and Fireman, also Fancy Painting for Jewelers done with dispatch"—Huddy conceived the idea of a magnificent military magazine which would depict the uniforms of the Philadelphia volunteer corps and describe their records.

Early in 1839, Huddy's dreams became a reality with the publication of the first monthly issue of this magazine. In addition to its text, the issue contained illustrations after paintings John R. Smith had based on sketches made by Huddy himself. These illustrations, lithographed by Alfred Hoffy, were printed by Duval and gloriously colored by his retinue of female watercolorists. The magazine was destined

for a notable run, eventually coming out in three complete volumes of 12 numbers each. The scope of its coverage, as indicated by the title to its first issue of March, 1839—*Military Magazine and Record of the Volunteers of the City and County of Philadelphia*—was immediately found to be too narrow, and in its second issue the title was changed to *Military Magazine and Record of the Volunteers of the United States*. Its better-known and final name appeared with Volume II—*U. S. Military Magazine. A Record of all the Volunteers together with the Army and Navy*.

... It was doubtless Huddy's publishing fame which earned him the appointment as military aide to the governor and the promotion to lieutenant colonel.

Although Huddy & Duval planned to continue their magazine into its fourth volume, that intention was not to be realized and the magazine ended with the printing of the twelfth issue of Volume III in September 1842. In January, 1843, the partners published a view of Camp Delaware which bears the line "Huddy & Duval's U. S. Military Magazine" and which had been intended for the first issue of Volume IV. Despite the attribution, the view did not appear in the magazine but came out separately. It is probably Huddy & Duval's final work.

Ray Riling

CONFEDERATE "STATIONERY"

The lengths of resourcefulness that American soldiers show and also the extreme shortages within the Confederate States in the latter years of the Civil War are reflected in the accompanying photograph. The cartridge packet wrapper, an interesting item in itself, was utilized by a Confederate soldier of the Army of Tennessee to write a letter home in June 1864—the blank inner side was used for the letter and the whole made into a letter sheet (envelope).¹

Sydney C. Kerksis

¹ Cover from the collection of Thomas Parks, Jackson Hts., N.Y.



GAZETTE

NEW MEMBERS

At the direction of the Board of Governors, the names, addresses, and interests of new members will be announced in the future in supplements to the current COMPANY muster roll. Each member and subscriber will receive copies with his MC&H mailing.

1959 COMPANY MUSTER ROLL

A muster roll of members and their addresses and a listing of institutional subscribers current to May 1959 has been published. All members attending the annual meeting received their copies and those remaining will be distributed to members on application to the Administrator. The supply is limited and those desiring copies should apply promptly.

BOARD OF GOVERNORS' MEETING

At its semi-annual meeting in Niagara Falls on 8 May the Board took the following actions which will be of interest to the membership:

Election of Officers

In accordance with the new by-law of THE COMPANY adopted at the November 1958 meeting of the Board, the following members were elected to three year periods of office: Secretary—John R. Cuneo; Curator—Harry Wandrus; Editor in Chief—Henry I Shaw, Jr.; Consulting Editors—Detmar H. Finke, H. Charles McBarron, Jr., Harold L. Peterson, Colonel Frederick P. Todd; Associate Editor (Art Editor), MC&H—Robert L. Miller; Associate Editor (Managing Editor), MC&H—Major Joe F. Petit.

Appointment of an Administrator

Acting on the recommendation of its Finance Committee, the Board appointed THE COMPANY's Assistant Treasurer, W. Ogden McCagg, as Administrator, an office which will handle the house-keeping details and considerable routine correspondence involved in the proper functioning of the Secretary's and the Treasurer's office. In the future COMPANY business correspondence will be processed by the Administrator and forwarded if necessary to the proper officers for answer. The Administrator will also act as Advertising Manager for the MC&H.

Admissions Committee

In order to cut down the time lag between application and acceptance of new members, the Board established an Admissions Committee which will convene whenever a suitable number of applications has accumulated to recommend disposition to the Board. A mail poll of the Governors indicating the names of individuals accepted by the Committee will be made by the Administrator and, barring objection by any Governor, the new members will then be notified of their election. The Committee members appointed by the President were Williams, Chairman, Peterson, and Shaw. Membership applications should be directed to the Administrator for processing rather than to Committee members.

Fellowship Committee

The Fellowship Committee's recommendations of new Fellows of THE COMPANY were unanimously accepted by the Board. A new Committee was appointed by the President to consider further recommendations from the membership: Peterson, Chairman; Wallace (Miller, alternate); and Williams (Shaw, alternate). Fellowship recommendations should be sent to the Chairman of the Committee.

1960 Meeting

The next annual meeting of THE COMPANY will be held at the Marine Corps School, Quantico, Virginia with activities centered on the Marine Corps Museum. Lieutenant Colonel John H. Magruder, III, Director of Marine Corps Museums and a Life Member, Fellow, and Governor of THE COMPANY, will be the meeting chairman.

HAIL AND FAIRWELL!

At the Governors' Meeting, the resignation of Major Charles West as THE COMPANY's Secretary and that of Lieutenant Colonel John H. Magruder, III, as Editor in Chief were accepted with great regret. Charles, or Charlie to many of us, served as Secretary for seven years and gave unstintingly of his time, his tireless energy, and his devotion. No member in that period has done more for THE COMPANY or given more of himself. Unfortunately, he felt that the requirements of a new and challenging position in the executive recruitment field

would demand too much of him to retain the Secretaryship. John Magruder has relinquished the charge of COMPANY publications in order to give full time to the opening of the Marine Corps Museum at Quantico and to handle the demands of a rapidly expanding country-wide museum program. Both Major West and Lieutenant Colonel Magruder will continue to serve as Governors.

John R. Cuneo was elected the new Secretary. Jack Cuneo is a lawyer and the author of two books on aviation, *Winged Mars* and *The Air Weapon, 1914-1916*, published in 1942 and 1947, and just recently completed *Robert Rogers of the Rangers*, which is reviewed in this issue. He is a member of THE COMPANY's Finance Committee.

Henry I. Shaw, Jr. was elected the new Editor in Chief. This was a logical choice as Bud Shaw, who is an historian at Marine Corps Headquarters, has been Managing Editor of the *MC&H* since the summer of 1955. He is also a Fellow and Governor of THE COMPANY.

To replace Bud as Managing Editor, the Board acted on the strong recommendation of the Associate Editors and elected Major Joe F. Petit. Joe recently retired after a career of 26 years in the Army and Navy, including service as commanding officer of a bomb disposal squad in World War II and Korea. He is now a liaison officer with Diamond Ordnance Fuze Laboratory and shepherds a first class arms collection and library in his few spare moments.

NEW FELLOWS

The Board of Governors, acting on the recommendation of the Selection Committee of Fellows appointed at the November meeting of the Board, is happy to announce the approval and appointment of the following members to the honor of Fellow of the COMPANY OF MILITARY COLLECTORS & HISTORIANS:

Earl Schenck Meirs—Author-Historian. An eminent writer on American history, particularly on the Civil War. For his numerous, excellent, yet highly readable, works in the field, to include *The General Who Marched to Hell* and *Web of Victory*; for his gracious and generous assistance to other workers; for the high examples he sets to other writers and to his fellow men.

John H. Magruder, III—Marine Corps Officer. Lieutenant Colonel, USMCR. Director of Marine Corps Museums. Governor and Editor-in-Chief of

THE COMPANY. For his pioneer efforts and continuing dedication to the development of a far-reaching museum program for the Marine Corps; for his series of illustrations of Marine uniforms and his contributions to *Military Uniforms in America*.

James S. Hutchins—Business Executive. Authority on the U. S. in the West, 1850-1900. For his outstanding collection of artifacts relating to the cavalry of that period; for his contributions in articles and illustrations to COMPANY and other publications.

Samuel E. Smith—Banker. For his leadership in fostering the serious study of firearms through his work in making the educational program and exhibit an integral part of many collector meetings; for his fine collection of American handguns; for his studies of serial numbers and survival rates of weapons; for his many magazine articles on American firearms.

Cary S. Tucker—College Professor. For his thorough knowledge of naval cannon; for his work in designing the guns and carriage for reproductions of the 17th Century ships at The Jamestown Festival and for similar assistance to museums and other historical organizations in the identification of cannon.

James C. Hazlett—Physician. For his long-time, detailed study of field artillery of the Civil War; for his outstanding research file which includes color slides, measurements, and markings of over 2,000 cannon of the period; for his generous assistance for students through this file.

Robert Abels—Arms & Armor Dealer. Charter Member. For the distinction he has lent to his profession through the ethical standards he has helped to establish and maintain in it; for his consistent help and encouragement to those interested in the field; for his numerous anonymous contributions to museums and societies; for his own fine collection of Bowie knives, and for his publication on weapons.

Harry Wandrus—Museum Preservation Specialist. Charter Member. For his detailed knowledge of and skill in the preservation of historical materials; for his work in cleaning and preserving the collections of THE COMPANY; for his study of Czech weapons of all ages and his publications relating to them, especially his booklet, *Czech Automatic Pistols*.

C. Ashton McDonnell—Construction Executive. Charter Member and Ex-Governor. For his contributions to founding and keeping enthusiasm

alive in The Miniature Figure Society of America; for his fine collection of miniature soldiers.

C. Meade Patterson—Geologist. For his book on American martial pistols; for his outstanding collection of Harper's Ferry arms; for his numerous writings on weapons in periodicals.

Eleanor Murray—Museum Manager. For her contributions in writing and editing the Bulletin of the Fort Ticonderoga Museum and for her contributions to Fort Ticonderoga as curator and general manager for many years.

John Powers Severin—Artist. For the plates which he has contributed to *Military Uniforms in America* on which he performed considerable independent research and displayed a wide knowledge of uniforms and accouterments.

William F. Imrie—Miniature Figure Maker. For his magnificently sculptured and beautifully colored miniature soldiers, acknowledged by all to be among the finest produced in the world today, and judged by many authorities to be the very finest.

John C. Wirth—Industrial Supervisor. Charter Member. For his incomparable work in producing lifelike and accurate military miniature figures and for his work with the Miniature Figure Society of America.

John Fleming Scheid—Miniature Figure Maker. For his fine 54-mm figure groups at the Artillery and Guided Missile and West Point Museums and for producing for the American market a beautifully sculptured and reasonably priced line of figures for students and collectors.

Randy Steffin—Artist. For his consummate knowledge of Western costume and weapons; for his published articles on the development of bridles and saddlery throughout history, on weapons, on Indian costume.

Reginald C. Kuhn—Lieutenant Colonel, U. S. Army. For his intensive documentary study of U. S. martial hand guns with particular attention to makers' and inspectors' marks; for his publications on the subject; and for his readiness to make his data available to fellow students.

Sydney C. Kerksis—Retired U. S. Army Chief Warrant Officer. For his extensive knowledge and collection of Civil War artifacts and his numerous publications concerning them; for his generous willingness to make the results of his research available to other students.

Lee A. Wallace, Jr.—Historian. Charter Member. Student of The Confederacy. For his research

in and published works on the military forces of Virginia in the Civil War and on the Confederate Marine Corps.

Ernest W. Peterkin—Electronic Scientist. For his contributions to the organization and development of the North-South Skirmish and his insistence on accuracy in order to make the affair a living demonstration of the Civil War period; for his knowledge of period military drill.

Robert W. Bard—Military Miniature Dealer. For his book, *Making and Collecting Military Miniatures*, a publication of major importance to the miniature figure field.

1959 ANNUAL MEETING

Over one hundred members and their guests were present for the 1959 Annual Meeting of THE COMPANY at Niagara Falls, 8-10 May 1959. Members began arriving at the Treadway Inn, which served as headquarters for the meeting, on Friday night—having infiltrated their way through various and sundry book stores and antique shops enroute. This was the first meeting many of the midwestern members have been able to attend. On Saturday a full schedule applied and those exhibits which had not been set up on Friday night were completed. While some members stayed behind in the exhibit rooms, most of the members went on a tour to Old Fort Niagara where a guide was provided for those who wanted one. Three large buses were used to transport the members, each in charge of a volunteer guide; the entire operation was arranged by The Old Fort Niagara Association of which our Meeting Chairman, Member S. Grove McClellan, is Vice-President.



An excellent luncheon was served the Members at the Fort Niagara Officers' Club, followed by a tour of the Nike site located in the vicinity of the fort. Colonel M. J. Krisman, USA, arranged a mock alert of the Nike site for the group.

In the afternoon the tour crossed the Niagara River at Lewiston, and visited the Canadian Fort George and the unrestored Fort Mississauga before going on to Queenstown Heights, where American regulars fought gallantly under Winfield Scott, and where Canada gained a hero in General Brock, who was killed on the Heights. The return trip to the Treadway was made by way of the Rainbow Bridge.



Photographs by Hampton P. Howell

Saturday evening saw the members assembled for dinner at the Treadway. Various types of dress uniforms scattered through the assemblage added splashes of color to the scene. The usual "no-speeches" rule prevailed and the "official" side of the dinner consisted in the announcement of the new Fellows of THE COMPANY and solicitation from the membership of recommendations of new Fellows to represent the best men in our truly varied fields of interest. Several short films, featuring historic events on the Niagara Frontier, were shown while dinners were digested. Members then



repaired to the exhibit rooms and/or the bar as they were inclined.

Sunday was a pretty day, and for many this meant a visit to Fort Erie, opposite Buffalo, where there is an excellent collection of military prints and weapons. Other members went to Fort York at Toronto or to other points of interest in Canada, while the rest began the long trek home. It was a full weekend, the sights so varied that no one can claim to have seen "everything."

On every hand there was evidence of the extensive preparations that Grove McClellan and his committee (Irving Richard Reed, Vice Chairman; Sam C. Jackson; and James J. Finucane) had made for our "invasion." Their work deserves a "well done" from us all. May they join with us at Quantico next year while John Magruder and the Marines do the necessary but usually unappreciated task of shepherding a successful meeting.

QUANTICO IN 1960

Tentatively, it appears that the annual meeting for 1960 will be held during the third week of May at the Marine Corps Schools at Quantico, Virginia. Company members will be among the first to view the new Marine Corps Museum which features a collection illustrating the evolution of automatic weapons. We may be certain that the Marine Corps will go all out to provide THE COMPANY with a show in its best traditions.

A word about individual COMPANY exhibits. Lieutenant Colonel Magruder will be most interested in any suggestions from the membership for improvements or additions. It should be borne in mind that this is an opportunity for those of us with important and unusual collections to share them with our fellow members and in so doing add to the general knowledge of those in attendance.

KEEPING TRADITION ALIVE



A subject so far little dealt with in the *MC&H* is that of military unit aircraft insignia. In this issue we have a pair of unusually interesting devices, the fighting red cocks of the U. S. Navy's Attack Squadron 63, and the Royal Air Force's Fighter Squadron Forty-three. The two units have never served together, though both have been deployed in recently troubled portions of the world. Nor are their badges identical, but in their similarity they catch somewhat the aura of the spirit of comradeship that is almost legendary among airmen.

Rowland P. Gill

To the members of THE COMPANY, the historic military custom of naming the gallant horses and mules that were so much a part of the pre-mechanized Army, and later the bestowing of personalities upon the oil and gas burning machines that became the mobile base and weapons of armed might is not unusual or new; "Calamity Jane," "Lazy Lou," and "Fort Ti" are all probably familiar to one or more of us.

As far as this writer can tell, however, it remained for the 2nd Armored Cavalry Regiment to be the first American unit to put its own history to work in naming the vehicles that may someday have to add yet other chapters to that history.

According to information received from this regiment, late last year the 2nd Armored Cavalry, at the instigation of the regimental commander and his executive officer adopted a policy of systematically naming the fighting vehicles of that unit for the battle honors the regiment is officially credited with. Today one can see tanks of the regiment's 1st Battalion proudly named from a list that includes "Reseca de La Palma," "Chapultepec," "Churubusco," "Cerro Gordo," "Buena Vista," "Contreras," and "Molino Del Ray." Ve-



hicles of the 2d Battalion are named for fights in the Indian Wars. And 3d Battalion tanks can be seen bearing such honored names as "Gettysburg," (as illustrated), from the Civil War.

Tanks of the Regimental Headquarters Company are named from the battles of the Spanish American War in which the regiments, predecessor, the 2d Cavalry, participated. Final selection for all tank names rests with the appropriate battalion commander.

Do any of our readers know of any other units using this same or a similar practice?

Rowland P. Gill

★ ★ ★

Issuance of a Presidential Executive Order on 24 April 1959 gave the United States Navy its first official servicewide flag to replace on ceremonial duty the long used Naval Infantry Color. Hereafter naval detachments ceremonially representing that service ashore will fly the Navy's own distinctive flag alongside those of the Army and the Air Force.

The new flag is dark blue, four feet four inches hoist by five feet six inches fly with a 2½ inch yellow



low fringe border. The central design consists of the essential portions of the seal of the Navy Department, in their proper tinctures, over a yellow scroll inscribed "United States Navy."

Approval of the new flag gives each of the three major services its own ceremonial banner for use when appropriate—the Army flag having been adopted in 1956, and the Air Force flag having been approved by the Chief of Staff of the Air Force in 1951.

Rowland P. Gill

PUBLICATIONS

Robert Rogers of the Rangers, by John R. Cuneo, New York, Oxford University Press, 1959, 308 pages, illustrated, \$6.00.

John Cuneo's new book was the first to be considered by THE COMPANY for sponsorship under its new policy of extending recognition to historical works in the useful reference as well as the standard reference category. The Reviewing Board, all students of the Colonial and Revolutionary era in American military history, were unanimous in their praise of the book which we read in manuscript form. And the sponsorship legend that was drafted reflects THE COMPANY's pride in "recommending it as an important contribution to American military biography and the study of the French and Indian War."

Even though Oxford University Press has given our sponsorship a prominent place in its promo-

tional material, it can well be taken to task for its part in altering one aspect of the book that strongly influenced the Reviewing Board's favorable decision. In manuscript, the book had very detailed and informative reference notes which were of considerable value to the serious scholar; in print, these notes have been drastically shortened. Now references are combined in a series of short essays on each chapter's source material. The author, however, has overcome this objection in part by depositing fully documented copies of his manuscript in the Clements Library and in the Library of the New York Historical Society. No one really interested in following Mr. Cuneo's research leads can avoid consulting the unique holdings in this field of both institutions.

Perhaps the greatest value of this new treatment of the ranger leader's life is the fact that the au-

thor has been able to delve into the widely scattered collections of Rogers' personal papers and the correspondence, diaries, and journals of his contemporaries. The narrative reflects research in material as far distant as the Loudoun and Abercromby papers in San Marino's Huntington Library and the priceless official papers of London's Public Record Office. The writing shows an easy familiarity with the countryside of Rogers' primary exploits that can only have come from extensive terrain appreciation studies, most of them accomplished in the field and afoot.

Most biographical treatments of Robert Rogers have concentrated on his part in the French and Indian War, on the ranger tactics and experiences that made his name. In many cases these approaches to the man have gone little further than his own writings, but Cuneo has done far more than this. His research and a thankfully gifted pen have given us a much more complete picture. The baleful animosity of General Gage and Sir William Johnson and its decisive effect upon Rogers' career is skillfully developed; the involved financial dealings that were so much a part of the ranger officer's military and private life are laid out for inspection; and the sordid story of trumped-up charges, court martial, and valueless exoneration resulting from Rogers' tour as Commander and Indian Agent at Fort Michilimacina is given its rightfully important place in the narrative.

The period following the war, through Rogers' several stretches in English debtor's prisons and his eventual return to this country as the shell of his former self is for the first time brought fully to light. A nagging doubt exists in my mind that not all the sources available on Rogers' part in the Revolution as a Loyalist leader have been exploited; certainly, research in the later period is considerably less rewarding as Loyalist military records are neither full nor easily found. The result of this dearth of records covering Rogers' later life has given the man in the period following 1779 a shadowy image, but the evidence is there that Cuneo tried and could not find the material to give his protagonist complete body in his last years. Perhaps this is as well as the Rogers that emerges in these final pages is a pitiful hulk when contrasted to the robust young man who scouted the shores of Lake George.

In keeping with his avowed purpose of writing only from primary source material, Cuneo has allowed only contemporary illustrations in his book,

although the six maps used are reconstructions. A signature of two portraits and six fort plans and views is sparse fare for those who like their history well illustrated. It is reasonable to suspect that the publisher had a strong hand in limiting the visual references in the book. On the whole, *Robert Rogers of the Rangers* richly deserves the endorsement that it has received. Our new COMPANY secretary could have begun his stewardship in no better way than in completing so handsomely his decade or more of intensive research by giving new life to a famous name in American military history.

Henry I. Shaw, Jr.

★ ★ ★

Company Fellows Harold L. Peterson and Robert L. Miller recently have written and illustrated respectively a brief but landmark study on Civil War arms. Titled *Notes on Ordnance of the American Civil War 1861-1865* it is the first of a projected four-pamphlet series on U. S. ordnance to be published by the American Ordnance Association, Mills Building, Washington, D. C. It is sold at \$1.00 to Association members and at \$2.00 to non-members. It is a quarto size pamphlet of 20 pages with handsome typography on fine handmade paper.

Discussion of the principal weapons is general but comprehensive with information given in one place which heretofore required consultation of a shelffull of hard-to-find books. Eight plates by Miller vividly depict the most commonly used small arms, artillery, ammunition types, and accoutrements. Three tables present performance data and vital statistics of these principal arms. A useful bibliography of primary and secondary sources completes this scholarly little work.

The first printing already has been sold out, the demand has been so great, but it is to be reprinted immediately, we are informed.

★ ★ ★

Member Charles E. Dornbusch has produced another of his extraordinary reference books. This one, *The Canadian Army, 1855-1958: Regimental Histories and a Guide to the Regiments*, has been privately printed for the author, and copies are obtainable from the Hope Farm Press, Cornwallville, New York for \$6.00 apiece. No copy of this book has been seen, but the announcement states that it contains over 200 pages with detailed in-

formation on the history of the present regiments, including dates of formation, various designations they have enjoyed, and amalgamations with other units. As might be expected from someone of COMPANY Fellow Dornbusch's interests and training, there is a bibliography of 402 regimental histories and similar books.

* * *

In 1950 the Department of the Army published a volume of factual information concerning the Army in all its phases called *The Army Almanac*. Now this volume has been brought up to date and published commercially by The Stackpole Company to sell for \$8.95. A tightly packed book of almost 800 pages, it contains data on the history of the Army, duties of various branches and ranks, pay, regulations, veterans' affairs, and hundreds of other topics. There are two indexes, one of names and one topical, plus a table of contents. For anyone interested in data on the Army, past or present, it will prove an invaluable source for quick information.

* * *

The first photographic publication illustrating the Civil War appeared in 1866. It was a two-volume set entitled *Gardner's Photographic Sketch Book of the War* and featured 100 pictures taken by Alexander Gardner or his associates. Since there were no means for reproducing photographs in halftone, each of the 100 pictures was an original print, mounted on its appropriate page. A text, possibly by Gardner himself, accompanied the photographs. The entire two volumes have now been reproduced by Dover Publications and are available, bound in one, for \$6.00.

Alexander Gardner was manager of Mathew Brady's Washington studio until 1863. In that year the two photographers parted company, and Gardner set out on his own, achieving considerable fame among students today for his photographs of Lincoln's funeral and his pictorial coverage of the Old West. The photographs in his sketchbook present much new material for students. About one third of them appeared in Miller's *Photographic History*, but the rest are reproduced here for the first time since the original sketch books were offered for sale. Each photograph is reproduced on a page by itself, just as it appeared in the original, and the impression size is approximately 7 x 9

inches. The reproductions are excellent, and the paper is of good quality coated stock. All in all, it is a book that will delight every Civil War buff.

* * *

Students of the eighteenth century have long looked to the encyclopedia of Denis Diderot as a prime source of information on almost every phase of life in that era. Originally entitled *Encyclopedie ou Dictionnaire Raisonné des Sciences, des Arts et des Métiers*, it appeared with 17 volumes of text and a supplement of 11 volumes of plates between 1751 and 1752. The whole concept of the work was revolutionary, and frequent violent storms broke over the head of its editor and proponent. It was almost unthinkable to place before the general public the details of manufacturing techniques and trades—a blow to the very foundation of society. Nevertheless Diderot persevered, and in so doing preserved a magnificent record of life in his day.

A Diderot Pictorial Encyclopedia of Trades and Industry (Dover Publications, 2 vols., \$18.50 or \$10.00 a piece) presents a group of 485 of the plates from this work as selected and annotated by Charles Coulston Gillispie. Most of the illustrations of interest to military historians appear in volume one and concern medieval arms and armor, small arms, drill and maneuver, artillery, fortification, cannon founding, sword manufacture, and the like. In the rest of the plates there are also many items of tangential interest to the military student.

Since it was necessary to make a selection from thousands of plates in deciding on which ones to include, there is naturally room for disagreement on the choice. It would have seemed preferable to this reviewer to have omitted the plates on medieval arms and armor which reflect nothing but the ignorance of the period on such phases of history and to have used that space for valid reporting of things with which the contributors were personally familiar. It would also have been wise to have reprinted the original identifications of the objects shown. As it is, the captions and comments are frequently wildly inaccurate, and indicate that the editor had little familiarity with military antiquities.

Despite these shortcomings, the publication of these two large and handsome volumes is a major contribution to the history of technology, military and otherwise, and they will be most handy for those who do not have ready access to or shelf space for the full 28 volumes.

* * *

RECORDS

Folkways Records has released a new 12-inch disc entitled *War Ballads U.S.A.* sung by Hermes Nye. As can be expected with all Folkways products, the quality of the recording is excellent. Nye, a Texas lawyer by profession, will be known to most collectors of military records for his previous Folkways album, *Ballads of the Civil War*. He has an exceptionally good delivery for songs of this sort and interprets them well.

Most of the pieces included are well known. Those related to the pre-Civil War era are all old standbys. The Civil War is passed over with only one entry, "Saro Jane," a riverboat song, then one whole side is devoted to more recent favorites including a few that are seldom recorded, such as "The Cavalry Remount," "The Engineers" and "The Fighting Q.M.C." If one is to offer a complaint, it is that Nye has done little or no research

on the newer songs he sings, simply following the path of least resistance and noting where he had heard the version he offers. In a number of instances either the words or the tune is not the one that was most commonly used. Others indicate poor transcription because of a faulty memory somewhere along the line.

One of the best military records in recent months has just been released by Elektra as this issue goes to press. "The Wild Blue Yonder" is a collection of Air Force songs performed by Oscar Brand with the Roger Wilco Four. Most of the entries date from the Korean conflict, but there are a few retreads from World War II and at least one reworked from a World War I original. As a tribute to the honesty of the presentation, these songs have been sung as straight as humanly possible with only a couple of notable bowdlerizations. The recording is excellent.

COMPANY OF MILITARY COLLECTORS & HISTORIANS

INCORPORATED IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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★ ★ ★

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